Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ACDA-07 AF-10 AID-05 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 LAB-04 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 PA-01 SP-02 DLOS-09 SS-15 USIE-00 PRS-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3221

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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- 1. VISITNG MISSION TO THE US VIRGIN ISLANDS--

COMMITTEE OF 24 ACTING CHAIRMAN ABDULAH (TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO) INFORMED US THAT AFGHANISTAN MISOFF IS NOT AVILABLE TO GO ON THE COMMITTEE OF 24 VISITNG MISSION TO THE US VIRGIN ISLANDS, BUT DIAKITE (MALI) IS AVAILABLE AND RAPPORTERU BLAYEL (SYRIA MAY BE, ALSO. (CONFIDENTIAL --USUN 1162)

2. ELECTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION--

USUN HAS BEGUN APPROACHING ECOSOC DELS FOR SUPPORT FOR OUR CANDIDACY FOR A SEAT ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, AND TENTATIVE ESTIMATE AT THIS TIME OF BREAKDOWN OF VOTES IS LIKELY 40 FOR THE US, ONE (CUBA) AGAINST, AND 13 UNCERTAIN. CURRENT AUSTRALIAN TACTIC IS TO DESCRIBE THEIR RIVALRY AS BEING WITH FRG, AND NOT US. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE-USUN 1159)

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3. IFAD-UN RELATIONSHIP AGREEMENT--

THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE IFAD PREPARATORY COMMISSION WOULD NOT BE ARRIVING IN NEW YORK UNTIL APRIL 25-26 TO PROVIDE THE ECOSOC COMMITTEE ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE DETAILED BRIEFING IT REQUESTED, PRESENTED THE G-77 AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN TOTALLY RECASTING THE DRAFT RELATIONSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN IFAD AND THE UN A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY AND THEY WERE QUICK TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF IT. THE COMMITTEE, MEETING AS AN INFORMAL GROUP APRIL 18, BEGAN ITS REVIEW O THE DRAFT AGREEMENT AND COMPLETED A FIRST READING OF THE FIRST THREE ARTICLES. THE G-77, LED BY PAKISTAN AND

JAMAICA, PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE PREAMBLE AND ARTICLES I, II AND III DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN THE UN ROLE AND CHANGE THE DRAFT AGREEMENT SO IT WOULD MORE CLOSELY FOLLOW THE UN AGREEMENT WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES (FAO, WIPO, ETC.) RATHER THAN THE "OUT OF DATE, 30-YEAR OLD" UN-IBRD AGREEMENT. THE NETHERLANDS, AND GENERALLY NORWAY, DENMARK AND ITALY, SUPPORTED THE G-77. ONLY THE US, THE FRG AND TO A LOMITED DEGREE, THE FRENCH, SPOKE IN FAVOR OF GENERALLY HAVING THE IFAD AGREEMENT FOLLOW THE IBRD MODEL. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE --USUN 1157)

4. ECONOMIC COMMITTEE--

THE COMMITTEE BEGAN IT WORK FOR THE CURRENT SESSION APRIL 19, HEARING STATEMENTS ON THE ITEM ON TRANSPORT QUESTIONS. UKDEL NOTED IT WOULD BE PRESENTING A RESOLUTION ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS. US, FRG, PAKISTAN(ON BEHALF G-77) AND THE REPRESENTATIVE OF ISO (INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS ORGANIZATION) SPOKE ON THE REPORT OF THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP ON CONTAINER STANDARDS. USDEL SUGGESTED INCLUDING IN THE COMMITTEE'S DECISION SOME LANGUAGE REFERRING TO THE NEED FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BOTH IN FACILITATING THEIR PARTICIPATION IN ISO AND IN ADAPTING CONFIDENTIAL

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TO THE NEEDS OF CONTAINERIZATION IN GENERAL. FRG SUGGESTED SOME LANGUAGE REFER TO THE ROLE OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS IN THIS RESPECT. PAKISTANI REMAKRS, WHILE PRELIMINARY, CAST DOUBT THAT G-77 WILL BE WILLING TO GO BEYOND THE LANGUAGE SUGGESTED IN THE REPORT OF THE AD HOC INTER-GOVERNMENTAL GROUP. CHAIRMAN MILLS (JAMAICA) SUGGESTED INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON TEXT OF EVENTUAL ECOSOC RESOLUTION. USDEL EXPECTS, HOWEVER, THAT THE G-77 UNWILLINGNESS TO GO BEYOND LANGUAGE TRANSMITTING THE REPORT TO THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD WILL BE FIRM. QADRUD-DIN (PAKISTAN) WAS ELECTED AS ONE VICE CHAIRMAN, AND THE ELECTION OF A SECOND VICE CHARIMAN WAS POSTPONED. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE --USUN 1163)

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5. SOCIAL COMMITTEE--

THE COMMITTEE MET BRIEFLY APRIL 19, AND DECIDED TO ADJOURN TO ENABLE FURTHER INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON HOW TO DEAL WITH THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN.

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6. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL --

AMB YOUNG, IN A GENERAL STATEMENT TO ECOSOC APRIL 19, SUGGESTED THAT HUNGER, TORTURE, AND RACISM WERE PROBLEMS THE COUNCIL COULD ATTACK WITH "NEAR UNANIMITY" AND HOPE OF SUCCESS. THE COUNCIL ALSO HEARD PRELIMINARY STATEMENTS EXPRESSING RESERVATIONS BY THE UK. SPEAKING ALSO FOR FRANCE AND FRG, AND BY PORTUGAL AND AUSTRIA CONCERNING THE REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY SUBCOMMITTEE FOR THE 1978 WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, ALL OF WHOM CONSIDERED THAT THE REPORT DID NOT COMPLETELY AND ACCURATELY REFLECT WHAT HAD OCCURRED DURING THE SUBCOMMITTEE'S SESSION. ECOSOC AGREED TO SECRETARIAT PROPOSAL THAT THE PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS WILL BE THE FIRST SUBJECT FOR CONSIDERATION WHEN THE AGENDA ITEM ON RESTRUCTURING IS TAKEN UP WEEK OF APRIL 25. ALL AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT RULES ARE TO BE SUBMITTED BY APRIL 22, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ORAL AMENDMENTS.

AMB YOUNG, WHO SAID HE WANTED TO ADDRESS ECOSOC PERSONALLY TO STRESS THE IMPORTANCE US ATTACHED TO ITS WORK, SUGGESTED THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD FOCUS ON COMMON ENEMIES, NOT DENUNCIATION, AND ON PROBLEM-SOLVING, NOT IDEOLOGICAL ARGUMENT. HE WANRED THAT AMERICANS WERE IMPATIENT WITH FOREIGN AID PROGRAMS, FOR TOO OFTEN THEY HAD BEEN DISAPPOINTED AT THE RESULTS OF THEIR EFFORTS; TOO OFTEN THEY WERE ASKING WHY RICH NATIONS SHOULD BE TAXED TO HELP THE RICH PEOPLE OF POOR NATIONS. THE UN MUST BE ABLE

TO DEMONSTRATE THAT ITS PROGRAMS REALLY WORK. HE SAID THE PRESENT US ADMINISTRATION CONFIRMED THE US COMMITMENT TO ALL FOUR FREEDOMS ENUNCIATED BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT IN 1941 -- FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, FREEDOM OF WORSHIP, FREEDOM FROM FEAR, AND FREEDOM FROM WANT. YOUNG STRESSED THAT THREE FREEDOMS -- FROM HUNGER, TORTURE AND RACISM -- WERE PROBLEMS ECOSOC COULD ATTACK WITH "NEAR UNANIMITY" CONFIDENTIAL

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AND WITH HOPE OF SUCCESS. HE NOTED 15 PERCENT OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION WERE STARVING AND MAY MORE RECEIVED ONLY MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS, AND POINTED OUT THAT SUCH PROBLEMS OFTEN RESULTED FROM MISPLACED IDEAS OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY COULD AND SHOULD DO MUCH TO HELP. HE SUGGESTED THERE WAS A NEED FOR: A SYSTEM OF NATIONALLY-HELD GRAIN RESERVES TO PROVIDE FOOD SECURITY; GREATER EFFORTS TO DISCOVER TECHNIQUES AND SYSTEMS WHICH DID NOT RELY HEAVILY ON EXPENSIVE PRODUCTS: AND BETTER PREPARATION IN CASES OF NATURAL DISASTER. STRESSING THAT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COULD NOT BE SEPARATED, AMB YOUNG SUPPORTED THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION THAT THE SYG BE INVITED TO SET UP A WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER HOW TO BETTER INTEGRATE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES INTO THE WORK OF THE UN.

AFTER DESCRIBING CASES OF TORTURE HE HAD HEARD ABOUT, AMB YOUNG STATED THAT NO THREAT TO A GOVERNMENT JUSTIFIED THE USE OF TORTURE, AND ADDED THAT AS A MEANS OF MAINTAINING ORDER, TORTURE WAS SELF-DEFEATING AND LED TO FURTHER DISORDER. HE SUGGESTED ESTABLISHING A GROUP UNDER A UN MANDATE TO INVESTIGATE THEPROBLEM OF TORTURE ON AN INTERNATIONAL BASIS, AND SUPPORTED THE UK INITIATIVE CONCERNING PERSONS HELD UNDER RESTRAINT ON GROUNDS OF MENTAL HEALTH. HE STATED THAT THE US ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO STRENGTHENING UN HUMAN RIGHTS MACHINERY, AND THOUGHT THERE WAS MUCH TO BE SAID FOR ESTABLISHING A POST OF A UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

TURNING TO RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, AMB YOUNG SUGGESTED THE US EXPERIENCE WAS ONE FROM WHICH OTHER NATIONS, SELECTIVELY, COULD PROFIT. THAT A GREAT CHANGE HAD TAKEN PLACE OVER A RELATIVELY SHORT TIME WAS NOT ONLY A SOURCE OF PRIDE TO AMERICANS, BUT ALSO A SOURCE OF FAITH THAT CHANGE COULD OCCUR EVERYWHERE. HE EXPLAINED THAT HE CONFIDENTIAL

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HAD SUGGESTED THESE PRIORITIES TO ECOSOC BECAUSE HE HOPED A CONSENSUS MIGHT BE DEVELOPED THAT WOULD LEAD TO A WORLD OF JUSTICE. POLITICAL CONFRONTATION MIGHT BE

A FACT OF LIFE, BUT THE STRENGTHENING OF JUSTICE AND PEACE WERE PREREQUISITES FOR THE BUILDING OF WORLD ORDER, AMB YOUNG SAID, DECLARING THAT ECOSOC MUST CONFRONT THE CHALLENGE.

7. WORKING GROUP ON CODE OF CONDUCT ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS --

THE INTERGOVERMENTAL WORKING GROUP. WHICH IS PREPARING AN ANNOTATED OUTLINE OF A CODE OF CONDUCT ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS, DISCUSSED APRIL 19 THE OUESTION OF ANNOTATING A PORTION OF THE OUTLINE DEALING WITH DEFINITIONS. IN THE DISCUSSION, MANY SPEAKERS FELT THAT A BROAD DEFINITION OF TRANSNATIONALS, AS ELABORATED IN 1974 BY THE GROUP OF EMINENT PERSONS TO STUDY THE IMPACT OF MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS ON DEVELOPMENT AND ON INTER-NATIONAL RELATIONS, WOULD SUFFICE, AT LEAST DURING THE INITIAL STAGES OF THE GROUP'S ACTIVITIES. SUMMING UP, CHAIRMAN NIKLASSON (SWEDEN) OBSERVED THAT THE MAJORITY RECOGNIZED THE NEED TO DEFINE SEVERAL CONCEPTS IN ADDITION TO THAT OF THE TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATION, AND THAT THE GROUP SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT AT THIS STAGE TO WORK OUT A PRECISE DEFINITION OF TRANSNATIONALS. IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THE ANNOTATION SHOULD BE BROADLY STATED. THERE HAD BEEN SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING CRITERIA FOR INCLUDING TRANSNATIONALS IN A CODE OF CONDUCT, BUT THE CHAIRMAN FELT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO INCLUDE THAT QUESTION IN THE ANNOTATIONS. HE SUPPORTED THE VIEW OF ONE DELEGATION THAT THE ANNOTATIONS SHOULD MENTION NOT ONLY THE PROBLEMS POSED BY TRANSNATIONALS, BUT ALSO THE OPPORTUNITIES THEY COULD PROVIDE. AND HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF ENSURING COORDINATION BETWEEN THE COMMISSION AND OTHER UN BODIES WORKING ON A DEFINITION CONFIDENTIAL

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OF TRANSNATIONALS. AT THE CHAIRMAN'S SUGGESTION, THE WORKING GROUP DECIDED TO ASK THE SECRETARIAT TO PREPARE A DRAFT ANNOTATION ON DEFINITIONS FOR THE GROUP'S CONSIDERATION.

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